

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended). An accumulator fuel system for an internal combustion engine having a plurality of engine cylinders, the fuel system including:

a plurality of injectors, each of which is arranged to deliver fuel to an associated one of the engine cylinders;

a rocker shaft upon which a rocker member is pivotally mounted, wherein the rocker member is arranged to control one or more inlet and/or exhaust valves of an associated engine cylinder;

an accumulator fuel volume integrated within the rocker shaft for supplying high pressure fuel to the plurality of injectors;

wherein the accumulator fuel volume is arranged to supply fuel at a first pressure level to the plurality of injectors and wherein each injector is associated with a pumping element for pressurising fuel to a second pressure level which is higher than the first pressure level ~~[an accumulator fuel volume for supplying high pressure fuel to one or more of a plurality of injectors, each of which is arranged to supply fuel to an associated one of the engine cylinders,~~

~~wherein the accumulator fuel volume is integrated within an engine component provided for a purpose other than that solely of an accumulator fuel volume for storing high pressure fuel].~~

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended). The accumulator fuel system as claimed in claim [2]1, wherein the rocker shaft is provided with a first axially extending passage for receiving a lubricating fluid and a second axially extending passage defining the accumulator fuel volume.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended). The accumulator fuel system as claimed in claim [[4]]1, including a first rocker member for controlling one or more engine cylinder inlet valves, a second rocker member for controlling one or more engine cylinder exhaust valves and a third rocker member for transmitting drive to a pumping ~~[plunger]~~ element of an associated injector,

wherein the first, second and third rocker members are pivotally mounted upon the rocker shaft.

6. (Currently Amended). The accumulator fuel system as claimed in claim [[4]]1, wherein the rocker shaft has a longitudinal axis which is arranged in a plane that extends substantially perpendicular to a plane of a longitudinal axis of the pumping element of an associated injector ~~[to extend substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the pumping plunger of an associated injector]~~.

7. (Currently Amended). The accumulator fuel system as claimed in claim [[4]]1, wherein the injectors are electronic unit injectors.

8. (Currently Amended). The accumulator fuel system as claimed in claim [[4]]1, wherein each injector is associated with an electronic unit pump for increasing fuel pressure to the second pressure level.

9. (Withdrawn). The accumulator fuel system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel system includes an engine cylinder head within which a plurality of engine cylinders are defined, and wherein the accumulator fuel volume is an integral part of the engine cylinder head.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Withdrawn). An accumulator for use in a fuel system of an internal combustion engine, wherein the accumulator in an engine cylinder head of the engine, the engine cylinder head being provided with a passage defining an accumulator fuel volume for high pressure fuel for delivery to one or more injectors.

12. (Currently Amended). An accumulator fuel system for an internal combustion engine having a plurality of engine cylinders forming combustion chambers, ~~and~~ one or more inlet and/or exhaust valves associated with the engine cylinders and a rocker shaft having a rocker member pivotally mounted thereon and being arranged to control the one or more inlet and/or exhaust valves, the internal combustion engine further including an accumulator fuel

volume for supplying high pressure fuel to at least one injector [a plurality of components for delivering fuel to the combustion chambers and controlling combustion therein, comprising an accumulator fuel volume for supplying high pressure fuel to at least one injector], wherein the accumulator fuel volume is formed within the rocker shaft and wherein the accumulator fuel volume is arranged to supply fuel at a first pressure level to the at least one injector, each of the at least one injectors including an additional pumping element for pressurising fuel to a second pressure level higher than the first pressure level [the at least one injector being arranged to supply fuel to one of the combustion chambers, the accumulator fuel volume being formed in one of the plurality of components of the internal combustion engine].

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Withdrawn). An accumulator fuel system, as set forth in claim 12, further including an engine cylinder head, the accumulator fuel volume being formed in the engine cylinder head.

15. (Currently Amended). An accumulator fuel system for an internal combustion engine having a plurality of engine cylinders forming combustion chambers and one or more inlet and/or exhaust valves associated with the engine cylinders, and a rocker shaft having a rocker member pivotally mounted thereon and being arranged to control the one or more inlet and/or exhaust valves, the internal combustion engine further including [a plurality of components for delivering fuel to the combustion chambers and controlling combustion therein, comprising] an accumulator fuel volume for supplying high pressure fuel to at least one injector, the at least one injector being arranged to supply fuel to one of the combustion chambers, wherein the accumulator fuel volume is arranged to supply fuel at a first pressure level to the at least one injector, each of the at least one injectors including an additional pumping element for pressurising fuel to a second pressure level higher than the first pressure level, the improvement comprising that the accumulator fuel volume is formed in the rocker shaft [the improvement comprising that the accumulator fuel volume is formed in one of the plurality of components of the internal combustion engine].